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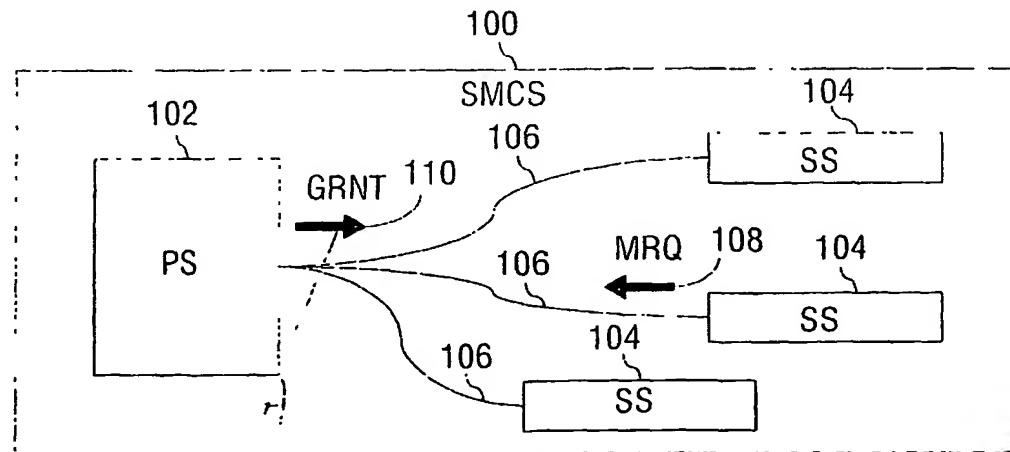
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## Declaration under Rule 4.17:

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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ACCESS REQUESTS MERGING IN A SHARED MEDIUM COMMUNICATION SYSTEM



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(57) Abstract: In a shared medium communication system (100), a common measure for avoiding collisions of application data is a request grant mechanism. Secondary stations (104) contending for upstream bandwidth send requests on a shared medium (106) that are each answered by a grant (110) from the primary station (102). The efficiency of such a system can be improved if at least two access requests are merged into a multi-request (108).

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*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
**IPC 7 H04L12/28 H04L12/56**

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

**IPC 7 H04L**

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	LELIGOU H-C ET AL: "Hardware implementation of multimedia driven HFC MAC protocol". 10TH MEDITERRANEAN ELECTROTECHNICAL CONFERENCE 2000, vol. 1, 29 May 2000 (2000-05-29), pages 273-276, XP010518871 the whole document	13
A	EP 1 223 714 A (ERICSSON TELEFON AB L M) 17 July 2002 (2002-07-17) abstract column 7, line 1 - column 9, line 26 column 11, line 42 - line 56	1-12
A	EP 0 503 212 A (IBM) 16 September 1992 (1992-09-16) abstract claim 1	1-13

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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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## Information on patent family members

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EP 0503212	A	16-09-1992	EP DE JP JP US	0503212 A1 69115881 D1 2501695 B2 7015448 A 5337312 A		16-09-1992 08-02-1996 29-05-1996 17-01-1995 09-08-1994

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